

# PLANNING EVENTS EVERYONE CAN ATTEND

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## DID YOU KNOW THAT:

18% of our population or more than 50 million Americans, are potential customers with \$175 billion in discretionary spending power.

This number will increase as "Baby Boomers" age and live longer. Is your business ready?

ENTRANCE  
CLOSED  
PLEASE USE  
MAIN ENTRANCE

Before



One picture is worth a 1000 words. The entrance into City Hall for persons with disabilities was narrow and not where everyone else entered. There was a sign and a locked door on 19th St. first level entrance that said "Entrance closed." For the elderly or disabled person, the first impression spoke volumes. Thanks to the administration of Mayor Langford, who not only said we will be an accessible city, but said "Make it happen." The City of Birmingham is working toward full ADA compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act not just because it's the law, but because it's the right thing to do.





## Disaster Preparedness for Persons with Disabilities



**A police officer uses hand gestures and a printed note to tell a woman who is deaf she needs to evacuate her home.**



*"Helping those who help others"*

### LEGAL BRIEFS



**We are on the web!**

OFFICE OF THE AMERICAN  
WITH DISABILITIES

**How to contact us:**

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**The ADA committee meets every  
Second Friday at 10:00 AM**

## ADA Advisory Committee

- ♦ Chair– Graham Sisson, ADA State Coordinator
- ♦ Vice Chair– Charles Priest, Director, Alabama Head Injury Foundation
- ♦ Dan Kessler, Director, Independent Living Center of Greater Birmingham
- ♦ Alice Hebert– National Federation of the Blind
- ♦ Gwendolyn Robinson– Senior Citizen Volunteer
- ♦ Mike Norris– Independent Living Center of GB
- ♦ Ron Talley– Manager, ASSISTECH Group
- ♦ Myra Thompson, Social Security Administration
- ♦ Linda Coleman, ADA Compliance Officer, City of Birmingham



### TWO NEW ADA PUBLICATIONS

The Mayor's Office of Americans with Disabilities continues to receive calls regarding persons parking in parking spaces reserved for persons with disabilities who block access and curb ramps, block access to bus stops or who are using expired decals and are in violations when they park in spaces reserved for people with disabilities. The City of Birmingham imposes a fine of \$100 for violators. The ADA Office will make available these brightly colored green placards as reminder to those who park in reserved spaces.

If you are planning an event at a city owned facility or park, please contact Birmingham's ADA Office, the Office of Public Information or Parks and Recreation for a guide on planning accessible events. You may ask why is this an issue and why do public events need to be accessible? **It's the law!** ADA became law in 1990 to protect the rights of people with disabilities and insure that their right to access and participate fully in activities, services and programs as others. Publications are available to anyone through the City's ADA Office and Office of Public Information.

